

Maryland Education Superlatives

EDUCATION WEEK
American Education's Newspaper of Record

Standards and Accountability For the sixth-straight year, *Education Week* has given Maryland an A for its K–12 standards and system of student testing and school accountability.

Source: Education Week

MGT
OF AMERICA, INC.

No Child Left Behind Compliance In July 2005, MGT of America gave Maryland high marks for its compliance with the No Child Left Behind Act. The national research and consulting firm commended Maryland in 58 areas, including reporting and accountability; standards-based curriculum; cross-divisional cooperation within MSDE; outreach to schools and to the public; technology infrastructure and access; and efforts to improve teacher preparation and professional development.

Source: MGT of America



Reading and Math Achievement For the second-straight year, all 24 school systems have improved their reading and math Maryland School Assessment scores. In all grades and both subjects, scores improved for African-American and Hispanic students and for students living in poverty, shrinking Maryland's race- and income-based achievement gap.

Source: 2005 Maryland Report Card

 **CollegeBoard**

SAT Participation and Performance For the third-straight year, Maryland's average SAT score ranks #1 in the College Board's Middle States region. The state's 1026 cumulative score has risen 8 points since 2001. Additionally, the number of students taking the SAT rose again in 2005. More than 7 in 10 Maryland students now take the test, a 7-percent increase over 2004 and an 18-percent increase over 2001.

Source: The College Board

 **SkillsUSA**

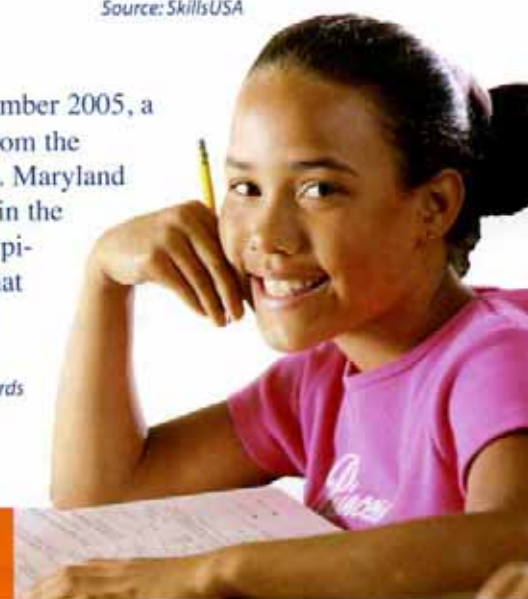
Career and Technology Education In July 2005, Maryland's SkillsUSA delegation won 16 medals at the organization's national conference. The team of secondary and post-secondary Career and Technology Education (CTE) students showcased their skills in 74 trade, technical, health occupations, and leadership competitions. Challenging 4,700 students from all 50 states, more than half of Maryland's CTE competitors finished in the top 10, and students in four career categories are officially best in the nation, winning gold medals.

Source: SkillsUSA

 **National Board for
PROFESSIONAL
TEACHING
STANDARDS**

National Board Certified Teachers In December 2005, a record 160 Maryland teachers earned certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. Maryland now has 660 Board-certified teachers, ranking 15th in the nation. The voluntary certification process, which typically takes more than a year to complete, requires that teachers demonstrate how their activities strengthen student performance.

Source: National Board for Professional Teaching Standards





AP Participation and Performance Since 2001, Maryland has increased the number of students taking an Advanced Placement (AP) exam by 70 percent; the number of exams taken by 83 percent; and the number of exams earning a college-mastery score by 76 percent. In January 2005, the College Board ranked Maryland #2 in the nation in the proportion of graduating seniors who'd received a college-mastery score on one or more AP exams. Nearly one-fifth of the class of 2004 earned a score of 3 or higher.

Source: The College Board



Supplemental Educational Services In June 2005, the Council of Chief State School Officers recognized Maryland's accessible and effective supplemental educational services (SES). The Council praised the SES resources provided to school systems; the way the state selects and monitors service providers; and the amount and quality of SES information that's made available to the public. Under the No Child Left Behind Act, certain schools not meeting performance standards must provide their students supplemental services, such as tutoring or after-school programs.

Source: Council of Chief State School Officers



Comic Book Initiative In October 2005, *The Daily Record* named MSDE an Innovator of the Year for its Maryland Comic Book Initiative, which uses comics and graphic novels as a way of introducing reluctant readers to literature.

Source: The Daily Record



Hurricane Katrina Relief Maryland students have raised \$1.4 million for the victims of Hurricane Katrina. Nearly 700 schools have participated in Maryland Kids Care, the largest charitable fundraising campaign in Maryland public school history. The campaign has become a model for other states' fundraising efforts.

Source: Maryland State Department of Education



Education Grants Maryland received \$21.6 million in grants last fiscal year. The largest grants focus on improving math instruction in high-poverty middle and high schools (\$10.4 million); generating more accurate and timely data on individual student performance (\$5.7 million); and preparing low-income students for college (\$2.2 million).

Source: Maryland State Department of Education



Traumatic Brain Injury Resource In March 2005, Maryland received a Knowledge Exchange Award from the federal Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Program. *Traumatic Brain Injury: An Educator's Guide* won the program's "Most Popular Product" distinction, after having been downloaded more times from the TBI Technical Assistance Center Web site than any other state-developed product. MSDE worked with the Maryland Mental Hygiene Administration and the Brain Injury Association of Maryland on the guide.

Source: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Health Resources and Services Administration, Maternal and Child Health Bureau



MPOWER Card In April 2005, Maryland became the first state in the nation to offer one library card that's valid statewide. The MPOWER card allows patrons to check out and return lending materials to any one of Maryland's 174 public libraries.

Source: Maryland State Department of Education



200 West Baltimore Street, Baltimore, MD 21201
410-767-0100 • 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD

Nancy S. Grasmick • State Superintendent of Schools
Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. • Governor